

D (cont'd)

positioning the source assembly and the detector assembly for the second mode of operation in a second position different from the first position using the mechanical positioning means, wherein the source assembly and the detector assembly are attached to the mechanical positioning means; and

generating an image of the object for each determined mode of operation.

02 4. (twice amended) An imaging system for generating an image of an object, said imaging system configured to operate in a plurality of modes of operation including at least three modes and comprising:

a source assembly comprising a movable x-ray source configured to emit x-ray signals;

a detector assembly comprising a movable detector;

a mechanical positioning means for positioning said source assembly and said detector assembly relative to the object, said source assembly movably attached to said mechanical positioning means and said detector assembly movably attached to said mechanical positioning means; and

a controller enabling an operator to selectively operate said system in a plurality of modes.

03 18. (twice amended) An imaging system for generating an image of an object, said imaging system comprising a base, a mechanical positioning means movably attached to said base, an x-ray source assembly comprising an x-ray source configured to emit x-ray signals and attached to said mechanical positioning means, and a detector assembly comprising a detector attached to said mechanical positioning means, said system configured to:

enable an operator to select a mode of operation from a plurality of modes of the imaging system;

alter the position of said detector assembly and said source assembly relative to said other assembly and the object based on the selected mode; and

generate an image of the object.

PLEASE ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW CLAIM

36. A method of generating an image of an object using a multimode imaging system configured to operate in a plurality of modes of operation including at least three modes, the multimode imaging system including a source assembly including an x-ray source configured to emit x-ray signals, a detector assembly including a detector, and a mechanical means for positioning the source assembly and the detector assembly, said method comprising:

attaching the source assembly to the mechanical means for positioning;

attaching the detector assembly to the mechanical means for positioning;

selecting a first mode of operation;

positioning the source assembly and the detector assembly in a first position for the first mode of operation;

selecting a second mode of operation;

positioning the source assembly and the detector assembly for the second mode of operation in a second position different from the first position; and

generating an image of the object for each determined mode of operation.

Remarks

Claims 1-35 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 15-19, 21-24, and 26-29 stand rejected. Claims 3, 12-14, 20, 25, and 30-35 are objected to. Claim 36 is newly added.

A fee calculation sheet for the newly added claim along with authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of the calculated fee are submitted herewith. In addition, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a three month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2002, for the above-identified patent application from November 27, 2002, through and including February 27, 2003. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$930.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.